

Week Five-Early Electric Blues and a little Rock and Roll

I. Chicago Blues

A. After world war II blacks returning from the war starting migrating to the north from the southern states for better opportunities and treatment

B. Similar to the early migration talked about these artists would find a “home away form home” with many friend and family members having already moved their

C. At this time period there was a large amount of independent labels forming after earlier rationing of shellac during the war and a new plastic process developing

D. Many of the labels would feature music for the immigrants of the south dealing with these new musicians to the area

E. The people of the south didn't much care for the jump blues, but the earlier more acoustic based artists such as Tampa Red and Big Bill Broonzy were becoming dated, they craved for a new music based on their delta roots.

F. The most important figure of this time is Muddy Waters

G. Muddy had started playing a house party circuit with other guitarists and then noticed he needed amplification to be heard where he was playing

H. Within a short time Muddy started adding drums, second guitar, piano, and bass to the mix. With the addition of Little Walter on harmonica the blueprint for electric blues was formed.

I. Soon bands such as this prototype were springing up everywhere. Labels such as Chess and Cobra formed to market a product for the patrons of the clubs that were springing up with many patrons throughout the city.

J. Important Artists

1. Muddy Waters
2. Howling Wolf
3. Jimmy Reed
4. Otis Rush
5. Magic Sam
6. Elmore James

I. Early Rock and Roll

- A. Early rock and roll was very much influenced by the blues
- B. Most important contributions come from the jump blues tradition
- C. Many early rock and roll numbers were jumped blues numbers done by white artists
- D. Further evolves into its own form by taking blues progressions and combining them with the jump blues etc.
- E. Some artists featured blues in their repertoire as well
- F. Important artists
 - 1. Chuck Berry
 - 2. Bo Diddley